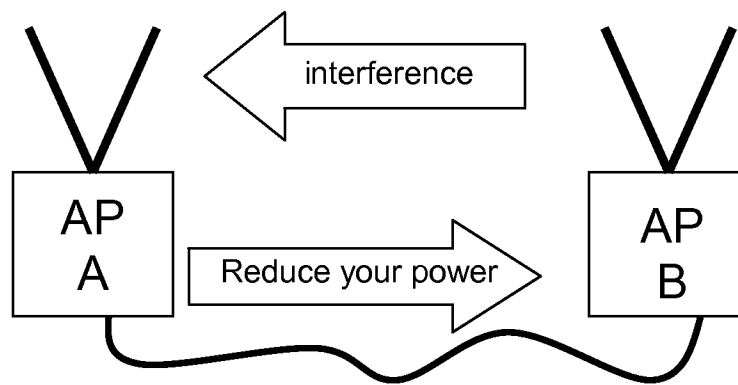


REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application. All of the pending claims are rejected. No claims are currently amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2003/0022692 (Ueno). Both Ueno and the claimed invention are directed to the same general problem, i.e., interference between access points in a wireless network. However, Ueno describes a simple, artless solution which fails in various real-world scenarios. In the passages cited by the Examiner Ueno describes that an access point A which detects interference from an access point B informs access point B (via wireline communication) that access point B is interfering. This can be depicted graphically as follows:

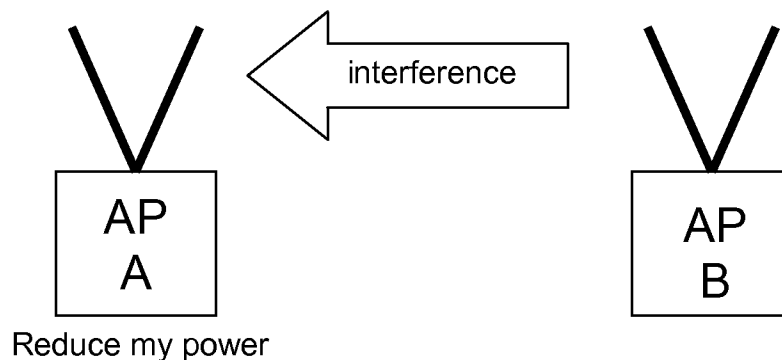


One problem with this technique is that AP A relies on a wireline connection to AP B to request that AP B reduce its power. If AP B and AP A happen to be operated or controlled by different entities, it is unlikely that such a wireline connection will exist and the technique will fail.

Another problem with this technique is that if AP B is a “legacy AP” that does not recognize

power reduction commands then the technique fails and the APs continue to interfere with one another.

The presently claimed invention, which may initially seem counter-intuitive, can be depicted graphically as follows:



Note that if both AP A and AP B execute the protocol, both will reduce power in response to interference and therefore reduce interference. However, unlike Ueno, interference is reduced without reliance on a wireline connection. Note further that if AP B is a “legacy AP” that does not execute the protocol, AP A unilaterally reduces interference between the devices rather than simply doing nothing because AP B fails to respond to commands. It will therefore be appreciated that the presently claimed invention is not only distinct from the cited reference, but actually represents an improvement over the cited reference.

For the reasons stated above, claim 1 distinguishes the cited reference by reciting “logic, responsive to the detecting logic, for **adjusting transmit power to decrease interference with the second access point** detected to be using the radio frequency channel, wherein the detecting logic and the **reducing transmit power logic are executed by the first access point.**” (emphasis added). Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore requested. Dependent claims 2-4 are allowable for the same reason as claim 1.

This application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. Should there remain unresolved issues that require action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' Attorney at the number listed below so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

March 12, 2008
Date

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